A SAGITTARIUS WOMAN.

BY CLARICE IRENE CLINGHAN. Copyright, 1896, by S. S. McClure Co.

Dutch family, and very popular. They had known each other ever since their school days and their friendship had always been of the frankest and most platente character; though of late this conventionalism had worn a little thin.

Mrs. Baxter was interested in the young man, partly because he possessed the artistic temperament so pleasing to women, and partly because abe knew he had a wealthy uncle who

little or hotring to him it she were ex-cluded from it. All at once, after a long silence, a warm, bare hand crept into his. A charming profile was hid-den by a wide hat, which apparently yielded to the wearer's wishes and in-clined over that part of her face next to him. All he could see was a very "It isn't that I'm doubtful about the

future, said Cuthberl. The worst of it is that a man spends his best years fighting tate, so that, at last, wheat the gods deign to become amiable, ha is only another Midas."

A give of fascinated awe. "And to think you can do all these things!" she murmured.

A give of pride illumined the professor's vast ears. "By the way." he

Cuthbert smiled. "You don't know Cuthbert smiled. "You don't know him. He repudlated me years ago, now without reason. When I was of age I came into possession of the sum of \$30,000—a gift from this same thoughtful relative. I afterward learned that he gave it to me as a test. He wanted to see what I would do with it."

"And what did you do with it?" ask-

ed Dorothy
"It's hard to tell," said the young
man rusfully. "I took a college chum
with me to Europe and when we returned five months later I hadn't a

penny."

"Oh," said Dorothy, without much surprise. She herself had extravagant tastes coupled with unlimited pocker money; moreover, she knew little of the bractical value of money, so that it has not seem remarkable to her that one should spenn \$20,000 in five months while traveling for pleasure.

Oh, that depends upon the amount of application given to it, to a certain extent, though I have a natural grasp of scientific subjects. I can usually tell the place any person occupied in the great solar world merely from observation. Now, if I might venture to hazard an opinion—as to yourself, for instance—if you would not consider me impertinent—"

immense advantage! oYu know wha are his strong and weak points; how to address him; what will flatter or in-terest him; you wind him around your finger just like this here the pro-bessor held one forefinger horizontally aloft wille he described rapid circles around it with the other

Mrs. Baxter regarded her uncle with sort of fascinated awe. "And to

ile, he is only another Midas." fessor's vast ears. "By the way," he "Ent there's your uncle," suggested remarked, in a changed tone, "that was remarkably fine young woman I met it on the beach."
"Whom? Oh, Dorothy Van Deering."

"Yes. She's a Sagittarius."
"A-what?" Mrs. Baxter ceased funning herself and her face took on a

look of pensive inquiry. "A Sagittarius. Born under that sign, you know. Denotes great executive ability," explained the professor. "Now if ever I marry, it shall be a Sagittarius woman. I have always said so."
"And you have never met one until now?" inquired Mrs. Baxter, for her under ways a bachelor.

uncle was a bachelor.

one should speem, \$10,000 in five months while traveling for pleasure.

"And is your uncle angry with you for that? How unreasonable."

"Can you direct me to Saint's Restite residence of Mr. and Mrs. Baxter" asked a wheezy voice beside them. They started and turned toward the speaker, whose footsteps had made so sound on the soft saind. It was the speaker, whose footsteps had made so sound on the soft saind. It was the speaker, whose footsteps had made so sound on the soft saind. It was the speaker, whose footsteps had made so sound on the soft saind. It was the speaker, whose footsteps had made so sound on the soft saind. It was the speaker, whose footsteps had made so sound on the soft saind. It was the speaker they had noticed in the distance half an hour before, now grown to the proportions of a short, rather stout, middle-aged gentleman. Derothy was the quicker to recover herself, and replied:

"Certainly: it's only a short distance from here—you can see the cottage through those pines—straight ahead."

"They had noticed in the distance from here—you can see the cottage through those pines—straight ahead."

"They case is hopeless." The protessor hooked disturbed a horrible jeal-one while traveling underlip defying his larre, fial tooked up aggressively, his full protecting underlip defying his larre, fial to looked on the plazza booked on the plazza before them, though in one of their remarks appeared on the plazza before them, though in one of their proximity, they standing in the library window. She wore a previous morant of their proximity, they standing in the library window. She wore a previous morant of their proximity, they standing in the library window. She wore a previous morant of their proximity, they standing in the library window. She wore a previous morant of their proximity, they standing in the library window. She wore a previous morant of their proximity, they stands appeared on the plazza before them, though in the library window. She wore a previous morant of their proximity, they stand

creey? I'll take it up to my room and read it. It may throw light on the professor's mysterious actions at the same time." He slipped the manuscript into the

pocket of his dressing gown and ascended the stairs to his room.

The next day was warmer and very hazy. The professor at breakfast looked for some sign of agitation on the part of Miss Van Desgis by the collection. for some sign of agitation on the part of Miss Van Deering, but that young ady was thoroughly serene and self-conscious. Late in the afternoon, as he sat in his room, a knock sounded at the door, and on opening it he confronted General Staphope. To the surprise of the professor he held in his hand the well-known delineation of Cuthbert Ogden.

"Sir" said the general as he stepped





"IN THE EMBRACE OF A MONSTROES BILLOW THE THREE CAME IN-

had he known that his little manoeuver had an eye-witness. It so happened that his apartment adjoined that of General Stanhope, who, being wakeful, and on the alert for burglars, opened his door noiselessly and peered out, just in time to observe the professor's stealthy descent.

one should speck should not agreed the specific distribution of the stranger of the specific ordinary to the specific ord

"Yes, decidedly. She's a Sagittarius," responded the professor.

"Eh?" said the general sharply.

"Yes, a Sagittarius Born in that sign, you know—great executive ability."

"On!" said the general, in a tone of cellef. No more was said, as they plodded on through the sand to the extreme point of the peninsuia. Here, just beyond a level stretch of the beach was a peculiar freak of naturea huge fortress of rock jutting out into the sea. On the seaward side was a sheltered nook, high up in the rock, shielded on three sides from the sun and facing the tumultous ocean—the great, forceful, capricious waters that hem in the shores of Mains. Here the

ing things unpleasant, and at the same time they're too good to quarrel with."
He walked away just as Jack Armitage appeared. He was a smooth-faced, boyish looking youth, with a look of serious determination. Just now his lips were compressed, his eyes glowing like fire, while his soft hat was crushed convulsively in both hands. "It's all over, Mrs. Baxter," he sald, tragleally.

"Professor Swithin!" school Mrs. Baxter in fresh amazement. "Why, what has he to do with it?"
"He has looked us up," sobbed Laila, "He says we've both got Mars in Libra. He says we would be miserable—we would kill each other!"

Mrs. Baxter stood in silent thought a moment, and her face was a study. Then she turned to the girl gently. "Never mind, dear, don't worry, and we will see what can be done with these adverse planets. Well, Jimmy, what is it?"

The fast words were addressed to a

The last words were addressed to a small boy in buttons. "If you please, malam, the housekeeper says can she ma'am, the housekeeper says tan assee you a few minutes-quick!"
"Certainly." Mrs. Baxter sought the cullnary department, where she found the housekeeper quite alone, looking depressed. None of the servants were completed as the control of the servants.

visible, and the place resembled a Fompelian kitchen just unearthed; all the departments of work having been suddenly deserted in a half-finished

condition.
"Mrs. Baxter," began the house-keeper, "the cook and the waitress have took sudden leave. Shail I go to to get others? And if I do who'll cook the dinner and wait on the table mean-How did it happen?" said Mrs. Bax-in dismay. "Really, , it's quite

dismay. "It was this way," said the house keeper. 'Professor Swithin was down here talking to 'em this morning, and they said he used bad language."

THE EMBRACE OF A MONSTROUS BILLOW THE THREE CAME INGLORIOUSLY TO SHORE."

He would have rested less peacefully had he known that his little manoeuver had an eye-witness. It so happened hat his apartment adjoined that of General Stanhope, who, being wakeful, and on the alert for burglars, opened his door noiselessly and peered out, in our noiselessly and peered out our noiselessly and peered out.

her eyes looking dreamily seaward, sat more agile was the first to ascend to Miss Van Deering.

"A fine woman," observed the general.

"Yes, decidedly. She's a Sagittarius," responded the professor.

"A fine woman," observed the general fine was the mist to accume to accume the might spy out the lind. He stopped short, and his calm, intellectual face assumed such an expression that the professor, who had paused below to take breath, was fain

the moment had intensified the natural peculiarities of each. The general looked failer, thinner, paler and more shrunken; while the professor had ap-

parently grown shorter, stouter and redder in the face.

"Well, well, something must be done," said the general at last, rousing himself; "here is the tide, up to our feet already. Our only chance is to atfeet already. Our only chance is to attract attention from the shore. It's too dark for them to see us. Let me see—I think I have it. Have you a match?" The professor held one out in clammy fingers. The general took off his cost touched the match to it, and then, flinging the blazing samment over his walking stick, waved it to and fro until a dash of rain extinguished the flames. The storm was now full muon them.

a dash of rain extinguished the flames.
The storm was now full upon them.
Embracing a narrow point of rock, and
buffeted by the storm in one direction
and lashed by the sea in another, they
were prone to be silent for many minutes. At last the general's voice could
be heard uplifted in anathemas upon
the peninsula and everybody on it;
next he blamed himself for having
come there; then with rising inflection come there; then with rising inflection come there; then with rising inflection and stronger expetitives, he spoke of solar blology in terms which left the professor no room for hope that even if they escaped, any of his fortune would be given for the extension of learning along this line. Meanwhile the tide crept up; they were half sub-merged. Presently the general's voice was heard again.

was heard again.
"It isn't that I'm afraid to die," he

faces. But down upon the beach it all the storm a woman, wrapped in a dark mantle, swung a lantern to guide the seafarers. As the exhausted trio gained the shore, the professor saw this woman—a Sagitarius woman slip her arm through Cuthbert Ogden's with a cry of thankfulness; and he strooped and kissed her there and then, in the midst of all the wind, rain, thunder, lightning and dreadful temthunder, lighthing and dream temporat, and in the presence of the entire Baxter household. In that supreme moment the conventionalities of life slipped cable, and they deliciously jost cognizance of things present and

An hour later the storm had died away, like the uncertain temper of a spoiled child, and a fine young moon was struggling with a few white clouds with manifest victory. In the Baxter household order had come out of con-

household order had come out of confusion.

"It's all right, dear Mrs. Baxter," whispered Lalla that evening. "Jack and I have made it up. (Wasn't it fortunate he was detained by the storm?) You see, in giving the professor his birthday, Jack dated himself five years ahead, thinking I would like him better if he was old; so he hasn't got Mars in Libra after all."

Mrs. Baxter laughed. She could afford to laugh, for the cook and waitress had promised to remain, and were to have their fortunes told by the professor that very evening.

Later, Mr. Baxter approached his wife, a twinkle in his eye. "The general begs me to draw up a will for him as soon as possible," he said. "He says a man with \$5,000,006 and the heart disease can't be too careful, and he wants his money placed to good advantage. He will leave it all without restriction, to—"

vaniage. He will leave it all without restriction, to-"
"To the public library?" asked Mrs. Baxter, breathlessly.
"Library?" said Mr. Baxter, without concern; "oh, no, to Cuthbert Ogden."

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merged. Presently the general's voice was heard again.

"It isn't that I'm afraid to die," he shrieked above the storm; "It's the absurd situation—men at our time of life failing into a trap like this. A man who has faced shot and shell as I have—drowned like a rat—it's simply foolleh."

"Death has no t—terrors for me." gasped the professor, who was shivering with cold and fright, "but I've always had objections to being d—drowned—yes, as sin-gular thing."

A cry of joy from the general interrupted him. "A boat—a boat." he cried. "Saw it by a flash of lightning. Hallo! Hallo! There is lasgain—looks like my nephew."

"Hallo! hold on," cried a clear voice above the storm. The little boat, tossed like a leaf in the wind, came nearer." It is my nephew, God bless him? cried the general. "He's risking his life for a counie of old idiots like us. He's got herolc blood. Two of his great-grandfathers fought in the revolutionary war. Yes, remarkable incident. I'm proud of him. But blood will tell."

"He's a good fellow," quavered the professor humbly. "He's got venus in A-quarius—great love for the p-people." "Confound Venus in Aquarius," gravited the general sevagely, and the rock. Cutthbert Ogden steadied it while the two men clambered in. Then the general seized one of the oars, and he and Cuthbert began the struggle of the return trip. When land was nearily reached the boat capsized, and in the embrace of a monstrous bllow the three came ingloriousity to shore.

Mr. Baxter and Juek Armituge were there, and from the blaze of light on the plazza looked out anxious women's faces. But down upon the beach its all the storm a woman, wrapped in a dark mantle, swung a lanterm to guide the tried out anxious women's faces. But down upon the beach its all the storm a woman, wrapped in a dark mantle, swung a lanterm to guide the manuel, swung a lanterm to guide the province of a monstrous bllow the three came ingloriousity to shore.

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